(*b*) the present bed strength and the average number of in-patients treated in a day in the Government Hospital, Perintalamanna, during the year 1953; and

(*c*) whether any report has been received from the District Medical Officer, Malabar, regarding the immediate necessity for increasing the bed strength in the hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Perintalamanna—76 women and 53 children.

Ponnani—100 women and 89 children.

Badagara—78 women and 53 children.

Manjeri—118 women and 62 children.

" (*b*) The sanctioned bed strength of the hospital is 22 while the average number of in-patients treated there during 1953 was 53.

" (*c*) Yes, Sir."

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" The figures given by the Hon. Minister go to show that the appointment of a lady doctor is fully justified as far as the Perintalamanna hospital is concerned inasmuch as the average attendance of patients in that hospital compares favourably with the attendance of patients in the headquarters hospitals in Malabar. Will the Government therefore consider the appointment of a lady doctor immediately to the Perintalamanna hospital? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The matter will be considered if the attendance of the patients justifies the appointment."

Grievances of the Mettur Mill workers.

* 910 *Q*.—SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representation from the Mettur Mill Workers' Union on 24th October 1953, regarding the reinstatement of workers and other grievances; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The Government examined the demands made in the representation and informed the Union of the position in respect of each demand."

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI :—" இந்த ரெப்ரஸெண்டேஷன் வந்து பல மாதங்கள் ஆகியும், இன்னும் அதை பரீட்சிப்பதாக (examine) கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அது முடிவதற்கு இன்னும் எவ்வளவு நாளாகும் ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir. I have answered that Government have taken action and they have informed the Union in respect of the position in each demand."

18th May 1954]

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, அவர்கள் வீட்டு வாடகையைக் குறைத்துக் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றதொரு கோரிக்கையை கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்களா ? அப்படியானால் அதற்காகச் சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுத்திருக்கிறதென்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்வார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" In the papers which I have with me, I see that one of their demands relate to the provision of certain housing facilities. It does not relate to the reduction of rent."

Investigation into the murder of one K. Nataraja Gownder, Kalathur, Coimbatore.

* 911 Q.—SRI C. KANDASAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a representation, dated 17th December 1953, from the Pollachi Taluk Vivasaigal Sangam regarding the irregularities in the investigation into the murder of one K. Nataraja Gownder of Kalathur village of Puravipalayam zamin in Pollachi taluk, Coimbatore district; and

(b) if so, what action was taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) The Government received a petition mentioning this crime and making some general allegations against the police.

" (b) Reports were obtained from the Inspector-General of Police about the allegations made therein and also about the progress of investigation in the murder case mentioned in the petition. A case is pending in the Court now, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The matter is *sub judice*."

Misconduct of the Prohibition staff.

* 912 Q.—SRI V. R. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) how many cases of misconduct on the part of the Prohibition staff were reported during the years 1952–53 and 1953–54; and

(b) how many of them were punished?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The number of cases of misconduct on the part of the Prohibition Staff reported during 1952–53 is 338 and during 1953–54 is 273.

" (b) The number of the Prohibition staff punished during 1952–53 is 259 and during 1953–54 is 161."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR :—" What is the nature of misconduct in these cases? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I want notice, Sir."